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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/15/02 1:32pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

This note is in regards to the Microsoft Settlement.

It is my belief the settlement that has been proposed punishes Microsoft far more than is deserved. I consider Microsofts' actions to be nothing more than hard business tactics and they succeeded based on public demand.

Nevertheless, the poposed settlement calls for support plan to our nations schools, this will provide badly needed resources and has no long term affect on the use of Microsoft products. They will continue to succeed based on their features and the public demand for those features. If they fail to provide needed features, their sales will decline.

Apple Computer made an attempt in the late 80's to influence our nations young with a program that provided deeply discounted equipment to students. History shows that this attempt failed; computer users and business will use the solutions that are cost effective and that provide interoperability amount all programs. The company that provides this will attract new customers.

As a data processing professional, I am well aware of the speed at which new software and features are being developed and deployed. The courts seem to find themselves in a position of hearing testimony and making rulings based on (obsolete) technology.

It is in the best interest of the USA economy, of the Microsoft Shareholders, and of Microsoft to settle this and move on.